

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

M: 18-42

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Drury/Austin House

and/or common Austin House

2. Location

street & number 16112 Barnesville Road N/A not for publication

city, town Boyds N/A vicinity of Sixth Congressional District

state Maryland code 24 county Montgomery code 031

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name James S. and Margaret M. Coleman

street & number 16112 Barnesville Road

city, town Boyds N/A vicinity of state Maryland 20841

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1985 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

M:18-42

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved date 1804
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources		Number of previously listed
Contributing	Noncontributing	National Register properties
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> buildings	included in this nomination: <u> 0 </u>
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> sites	
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> structures	Original and historic functions
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects	and uses: residential
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> Total	

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY:

The Drury/Austin House, located facing east on a wooded hillside south of Barnesville Road near the village of Boyds in rural western Montgomery, County, Maryland, is a 1 1/2 story dwelling comprising two sections: a later 18th century one-room plan log house (the southern half), which was doubled in size by the addition of a one-room timber frame section in the early 19th century. A one-story shed spans the rear elevation. The log section has a large exterior chimney on the south gable with a stone base and brick stack; the shed kitchen attached to the log-house has a similar (smaller) chimney. The original building is constructed of logs hewn on two faces, joined with V-notched corner timbering, and chinked with flat stones set in mortar. The gable above the roof plate, and the shed kitchen are sheathed with weatherboards. Corrugated metal covers the roof, replacing side-lapped wood shingles. The frame section and its shed are clad in German siding; it rests on a fieldstone foundation with a small excavated cellar accessible through a bulkhead entrance in the north end. The log house interior is whitewashed, with a boxed winder stair in the northwest corner and a broad fireplace in the south wall. The interior of the frame section is finished in plaster over sawn lath.

See Continuation Sheet No. 1 for General Description

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

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date entered

Drury/Austin House

Continuation sheet Montgomery County, Maryland Item number

7

Page 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Drury/Austin House is a 1 1/2 story log and frame house located on a wooded hillside near the village of Boyds in rural western Montgomery County. The house, which faces east, incorporates a late 18th century one-room V-notched log building; a one-room heavy timber frame addition was made to the north gable of this structure in the early 19th century. Each section has a one-story frame shed across the rear elevation, accommodating a kitchen behind the log section and a bed chamber behind the frame section. The east facade is five bays wide; the three southern bays are in the log section, with a central entrance flanked by window openings. The door is a Victorian 5-panel design, with the panels painted white and the stiles and rails dark green. The frame section is clad in German siding, and has a window in its northernmost bay and a door in the bay adjoining the log section; this batten door is painted to simulate four panels, in the same color scheme as the other door. The paint treatment survives from the turn of the 20th century, and is shown in a ca. 1912 photograph of the house.

The log section exhibits characteristic Anglo-American construction techniques: the logs are hewn flat on their front and back faces, joined at the corners with a notch resembling an inverted V, sawn off flush at the corners, and chinked with small, flat stones set at an angle in mortar. The exterior was formerly whitewashed, and shows no evidence of having been sided - a common treatment. The south gable is dominated by a massive chimney, with a stone base and brick stack. A smaller chimney, of similar construction, served a cookstove at the southwest corner of the kitchen shed. The upper gable and the shed are sheathed in wide weatherboards. A small square window to the right of the chimney stack lights the half-story.

The north gable has a window centered on both stories, and the bulkhead cellar entrance. An interior brick stove stack exits from the roof slightly to the west of the ridge.

The rear elevation is spanned by a one-story shed; on the log section it is sheathed in weatherboards and has a centrally-placed window; on the frame section the shed is clad in German siding and has a batten door.

The interior of the log section consists of a single room measuring 13' 0" by 14" 9". A wide fireplace is centered on the south wall. A batten door in the west wall leads into the kitchen, and a similar door offset to the east on the north wall

M:18-42

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Drury/Austin House

Continuation sheet Montgomery County, Maryland Item number

7

Page 2

opens into the frame addition. A boxed winder stair in the northwest corner gives access to the half-story. The log walls are heavily whitewashed; late 19th-century tongue-and-groove boards were applied over the ceiling joists, which were originally whitewashed and left exposed. Flooring is of wide boards.

The half story is whitewashed up to the plate; the interior of the roof remains unfinished, revealing common rafters lapped at the ridge with half-lapped collar beams secured with wrought nails. The pitch of the roof was altered slightly by applying shims to the rafters when the present corrugated metal covering was installed.

The frame section also contains a single room, slightly larger than the log section. Walls are finished in plaster over sawn lath; floors are tongue-and-groove. Where deterioration has exposed major structural members (corner posts and wall plates), they are found to be of squared timbers joined with mortise and tenon, but the intermediate posts are unsquared poles. On the upper floor, a batten door in the west knee-wall gives access to the space under the rear shed roof.

The ground slopes downward from south to north, so that the south end of the log section rests directly on log sills, while the north end has a stone foundation which joins that of the frame section. A shallow cellar under the frame section is accessible through a bulkhead entrance on the north end.

8. Significance

M:18-42

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1768 **Builder/Architect** Thomas Drury, presumed builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: C
 Applicable Exceptions: none
 Significance Evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Drury/Austin House is significant as an essentially unaltered example of the type of dwelling that characterized western Montgomery County in the earliest phase of its settlement. Characteristic features include hewn log construction with V-notched corner-timbering, one-room plan with rear shed kitchen, 1 1/2 story height, and exterior chimneys with fieldstone bases and brick stacks. These features remain intact and clearly expressed despite the deteriorated condition of the house. The frame additions are also of interest as they reflect the changing spatial needs of the Austin family and the development of new construction techniques.

For History and Supporting Documentation, see Continuation Sheet No. 3

M.18-42

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Drury/Austin House

Continuation sheet Montgomery County, Maryland Item number 8 Page 3

HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

One of the oldest houses in Montgomery County, the Drury/Austin House, is a rare example in Montgomery County of early architecture untouched by modernization. This settler's log house is an excellent example of early housing and provides an important contrast with later architecture in Montgomery, one of America's wealthiest counties.

In 1768 a merchant, William Deakin, Jr., deeded to planter Thomas Drury 222 acres of unimproved land, described as being in Frederick County in the Province of Maryland.¹ Eight years later the same property would be included in a newly established county, state and nation.

Drury felled some of the abundant chestnut trees on his land and constructed a log house. For a time Drury prospered and collected household possessions. When he sold the property in 1784, improvements included two slaves, Jack and Terosia (Teresa), one each horse, mare, cow and steer with calf, three hogs, two featherbeds, two tables with six chairs, three chests, three pewter dishes, ten pewter plates, none pewter spoons, one iron pot and a dutch oven.

After Drury's experiences, however, Simon Reeder, the succeeding owner, found it difficult to prosper on this parcel of land. William Deakin and Benjamin Reeder bought the land, household goods, livestock, slaves and crop from Simon Reeder. Included in this transaction were the slaves Teresa and Jack plus George, Joseph, Moses, Ned, Phil, Sally, Bep, Jenny and Henry, as well as 15 cattle, 35 hogs, 19 sheep and miscellaneous small stock.² The buyers agreed to sell these items to settle the debts of the seller, and did so at a sheriff's sale a few years later.

The Austin family probably moved to the property at this time, renting it, and establishing³ a family graveyard for Amos Austin, the father of John Austin.

In 1795 Robert Ferguson of Charles County and Alexander Hamilton of Prince George's County bought the parcel,⁴ and sold it to John Austin in 1803 for 175 pounds, 4 shillings.⁵ Traditionally the family believed that the nation's⁶ first secretary of the treasury sold them their property. However, the existence of Alexander Hamilton, who was a major landowner in Prince George's at this time, indicates that he was more likely the owner.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Drury/Austin House

Continuation sheet Montgomery County, Maryland Item number

8

Page

4

In 1804 John Austin moved the log house approximately 1200 feet west across the creek to its present site near an excellent, year round spring. Soon after the house settled into its permanent location, Austin built the frame section of the house and added a one story shed for a kitchen and a downstairs bedroom for himself and his wife. They had a very large family and sent them all upstairs to bed, the girls in one small bedroom and the boys in the other. The Austins used the stone fireplace in the log section for cooking and heating. This section had a dirt floor, but John Austin laid down two-foot wide boards for flooring. Two barns, one for tobacco and one for stock, plus 8 carriage, spring and meat houses and a turkey shed were built.

In 1883 John Austin died, and the property was transferred to his son, James H. Austin. James farmed the land, eventually parceling off some of it to his children. James installed the tongue and groove floor and ceiling in the log house.

James Austin died in 1936 and his unmarried daughters and his grandson received the deed for the remainder of the property, consisting of 92 acres.

In 1952 the survivors, grandson J. Harrington Austin and his aunt, Edith G. Austin, built a one story masonry house on the northeast corner of this property. The farmland and the old house and barns were abandoned. In 1966 Robert Viner and Richard Adams, investors, bought the remaining 87 acres. Thirty acres of this land including the old house and ruined barns were surveyed and purchased by the current owners in June, 1980. Francis D. Lethbridge, AIA, designed for them a house overlooking and relating to the old house with the same roof pitch. A barn has been built on the fieldstone foundation of the original barn.

The Drury/Austin house and land is a microcosm of life in Montgomery County's earliest years. English settlers found the land to be rich in virgin timber and good soil. They cleared the trees, a small area at a time using their own and slave labor, and built housing and fences with chestnut logs. They planted tobacco, but the soil was thin and rapidly depleted. It was difficult to make a living; the house shows few signs of gracious living. This house provides an unusual and valuable opportunity for the study of early local vernacular architecture. Substantially unaltered from its original 1768 condition, the log section of the house provides a clue to understanding early building methods as well as a link to the 1793 John Poole House in Poolesville, approximately 15 miles west. Through the centuries the old house has retained its original character.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Drury/Austin House

Continuation sheet Montgomery County, Maryland Item number

8

Page

5

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Montgomery's oldest known unmodernized house illustrates the painstaking craftsmanship of early settlers, intent on hewing from the wilderness a shelter for themselves and their families. Standing in one of the nation's wealthiest counties, this structure is a true touch-back to our past.

Footnotes:

1. Hall of Records, Annapolis; L/592, Frederick Land Records.
2. Hall of Records, Deed of Trust D/294, Montgomery County
3. Walters, Sallie D., unpublished manuscript of the Austin family, owned by Harrington Austin.
4. Montgomery County Land Records, F/152.
5. Ibid. L/97.
6. Walters, op. cit.
7. Rothrock, Gail, Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission.
8. Walters, op. cit.
9. Montgomery County Land Records, EBP 29/247.
10. Ibid., EBP 35/176, EBP 35/448; JA 36/223.
11. Ibid., 654/279.
12. Ibid., 3461/599.
13. Ibid., 5526/857.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Drury/Austin House

Continuation sheet Montgomery County, Maryland Item number 10 and 9

Page 6

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property, approximately 0.5 acre, encompasses the resource within its immediate setting. The boundaries were drawn to include the spring, located north of the house, with which the house is historically associated, while excluding recently-cleared pasture land further north and recent construction to the south and east. Boundaries are depicted on the attached topographic map, drawn to the scale 1" = 100'.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Hall of Records, Annapolis

Montgomery County Land Records

Francis D. Lethbridge, AIA

Harrington Austin, private interview, 1980

Gail Rothrock, Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission

Sallie D. Austin Walters, unpublished manuscript, owned by Harrington Austin

Coleman, Margaret and Anna Lewis, Montgomery County, A Pictorial History; Donning Company, Norfolk, 1984.

9. Major Bibliographical References

M:18-42

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approx. .5 acre

Quadrangle name Germantown, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	1 8	2 9 8 0 1 0	4 3 4 1 4 5 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Margaret M. Coleman

organization N/A date March 28, 1985

street & number 16112 Barnesville Road telephone (301) 972-3452

city or town Boys state Maryland 20841

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *M. Coleman* 1-31-86

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Thomas Drury/John Austin House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

16112 Barnesville Road

8

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Boys

— VICINITY OF

Montgomery

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME James S. and Margaret M. Coleman

Telephone #: (301)972-3452

STREET & NUMBER

12416 Deoudes Road

Maryland 20841

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

Boys

— VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 5526

Folio #: 857

STREET & NUMBER

Maryland

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Rockville

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Masterplan of Historic Sites in Montgomery County (Pending)

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS County Building

CITY, TOWN

STATE
Maryland

Rockville

7 DESCRIPTION

M.18-42

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE <u>1804</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This 5 bay by 1 bay house was built in two sections; one log and one frame. The house is not visible from Barnesville Road as it sits back about 1400 feet and is surrounded with trees. The west part is one bay by 3 bay, 1½ story, and faces north on Barnesville Road. It has a massive exterior stone fireplace on the west wall, topped with a red brick chimney on the frame, upper story. Plain wood lintels and surrounds are attached to the doors and window openings with wood pegs. The interior of this part consists of one room down of log construction, and one room up, reached by a closed, dog leg stair. The logs are chinked with stones and sand mortar. The foundation is log. The ceiling and floor of the downstairs room are wood, tongue and groove.

The frame section is 2 bay by one bay, 2 story, attached to the east end of the log section. It faces north. This section has an uncoursed, stone foundation and cellar and is approximately two feet lower than the log part. It has a stone and brick exterior chimney on the east facade. Wide lapped boards over upright poles form the siding on the exterior. This section was built with mortise and tendon pole uprights.

The gable roof runs east-west, is covered with corrugated metal and covers a window in each gable end. The cat-slide south facing, rear roof covers a full-width, one story extension, forming 2 rooms. The west room was the kitchen, and has a brick and stone, exterior chimney.

Square nails used in construction date from 1795-1815.

Board and batten doors separate the log and frame sections.

With the exception of the log room, the interior walls are sheathed with horsehair plaster over lath.

Remnants of a log meat house, an outhouse and a barn remain.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES Log Part-Pre 1784;

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

~~Frame Part c. 1804~~

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This log and frame tidewater style house with no plumbing and no electricity may be the the sole survivor of its type and era that has not been modernized. The log part dates from the Revolutionary War and the frame part from the early 19th century.

In 1784 Thomas Drury deeded to Simon Reeder 222 acres of the tract, Conclusion, for "200 pounds specie." The log house was included as "improvements." Reeder bought Drury's household goods and family slaves and livestock at the same time, "one negro man" named Jack, "one negro woman" named Terosia, one horse, mare, cow, steer, calf, three hogs, 2 featherbeds, 2 tables with 6 chairs, 3 chests, 3 pewter dishes, 10 pewter plates, nine pewter spoons, one iron pot and a dutch oven. (Hall of Records, Annapolis. B/246-Deed; B/245-Bill of Sale; August 11, 1785.)

Five years later Benjamin Reeder of Charles County and William Deakins were granted a of trust for the property. They paid Simon Reeder five shillings for eleven negroes, 1 black cattle, 35 hogs, 19 sheep, "all the other stock," a growing crop, household goods and land, and agreed to sell these items to pay the debts of Simon Reeder. The slaves had increased in number considerably from Terosia and Jack. They were named George, Joseph, Moses, Ned, Phil, Sally, Bep, Jenny, Henry and the couple, now called Teresa and Jack. (Hall of Records, Deed D/294; November 19, 1789.)

Alexander Hamilton was the next owner, along with Robert Ferguson, who bought the property in 1795. (Mo. Co. Land Records, F/152; February 20, 1795.)

The partners sold the farm to John Austin in 1803 for 175 pounds 4 shillings, to remain in this family for the next 162 years. (Mont. Co. Land Records, L/97; October 17, 1803.)

In 1804 John Austin moved the house approximately 1200 feet west across the creek to its present site, and added the frame section. A graveyard marks the previous, original location. John's father and uncle, Amos and Jonas Austin and also a slave are buried there, suggesting that the Austins lived in the house before the date of purchase, as tenants of Hamilton and Ferguson.

In 1883 the property was deeded to James H. Austin for \$825. Jerusha, John's widow, reserved her "right of dower." Other heirs included William Z.T. and Elizabeth Umstead, Robert A. and Sallie D. Walters, Charles T. Austin, Richard L. and Frances E. Umstead, Stephen R. and May E. Austin, Richard E. and Louisa Cooley, and Mary J. Austin. (EBP 29/247; August 21, 1883)

Jarrington Austin, born and raised in this house, lives in a house built in 1952 in northeastern corner of the property, near Barnesville Road. According to him, his

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

M:18-42

great-grandfather, John Austin, moved the log house and built the frame part about the same time, to house his large family. The children slept in the two large upstairs bedrooms, and the parents in the small downstairs bedroom. The family used the stone fireplace for cooking and heating until the kitchen wing was set up properly. The log house had a dirt floor, but Austin laid down two-footwide boards for flooring. The next generation installed the present tongue and groove floor for better draft control.

John Austin built a large barn which was struck by lightning and burned down August 9, 1907. It was rebuilt on the same foundation, and lightning preventive devices installed on the barn as well as the house. Robert A. Walters, James Austin's son-in-law, built this barn.

The Austins grew most of their food on the property. They owned cows, horses, hogs and chickens, and planted a large vegetable garden including potatoes. An apple orchard provided cider, yinegar and assorted apple products. About their only store purchase was sugar, once or twice a month. Sometimes they took butter and eggs to the store, and traded for merchandise. They shopped in Boyds in the early to mid 20th century, buying from Mahlon T. Lewis, Benjamin Hicks, "Matt" Thompson and Will Williams. In 1917 childred went to the Ten Mile Creek Schoolhouse taught by Molly Green, Sarah Soper and Eleanor Maughlin, continuing the education in Gaithersburg with a train commute from Buck Lodge. (Unpublished manuscript, a diary kept by Sallie D. Walters, daughter of James Austin.)

The cash crop was wheat. James Austin owned two horses, and his neighbor on the north, Nick Monard, owned two also. The horses were hitched together to make a 4-horse team, and used to plow, plant and harvest the adjoining farms. Austin and Monard hired a steam thresher when cash was plentiful enough to permit. Otherwise they harvested the wheat themselves, cutting the stalks, tying them into bundles and stacking them to dry in the field. They separated the wheat from the straw and chaff when thoroughly dry, and carted the grain to Darby's Mill in Buck Lodge to grind into flour.

James Austin parceled off some of his land to his children, Ann S. Reid and Stephen R. Austin. (EBP 35/176, March 16, 1885 and EBP 35/448; July 6, 1885, and JA 36/223; December 30, 1892.) He died April 25, 1936, and Harrington Austin received the deed for the 92 acres remaining. (654/279; February 10, 1937.) He deeded the property to Willey E. Austin, Edith G. and Mary J. Austin who were living there at the time. (654/280 February 10, 1937.) In 1949 the name of Willey was dropped, and Harrington's returned to the deed. (1318/254; November 18, 1949.)

In 1952 H. Austin built a one story block house on the northeast corner of his land, and in 1966 sold 87 acres to Boyds Limited Partnership, Robert Viner et al. (3461/599). The present powners bought the house and 30 acres of land in June, 1980. The house is being restored as it was in 1804.

M:18-42

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hall of Records, Annapolis
Montgomery County Land Records
Francis D. Lethbridge, AIA.
Unpublished manuscript by Sallie D. (Austin) Walters, kept by Harrington Austin
Harrington Austin, private interviews, 1980.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(Will submit later.)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	Margaret Marshall Coleman	DATE	November 20, 1980
ORGANIZATION		TELEPHONE	(301)972-3452
STREET & NUMBER	12416 Deoudes Road	STATE	Maryland
CITY OR TOWN	Boyds		

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Austin Log House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Barnesville Road

CITY, TOWN

Boys

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Robert V. Viner
Richard A. Adams

Telephone #: 949-1515

STREET & NUMBER

11141 Georgia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Wheaton

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20907

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 3461

Folio #: 599

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20850

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE <u>1804</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This five bay by one bay house was built in two sections; one log and one frame. It is not visible from the road, as it sits far back and surrounded with mature trees. The log part is one bay by three bay, one story and faces north on Barnesville Road. It has a massive stone fireplace on the west wall, topped with a red brick chimney on the frame upper story. Plain wood lintels and surrounds are attached to the doors and windows with pegs. The interior of this part consists of one room down and one room up, reached by closed stairs. The gable roof is corrugated metal. The foundation is not visible. The ceiling and floor of the downstairs room are wood, tongue and groove.

The frame section is two bay by one bay, on the east end of the log part, and also faces north. It has a stone foundation and cellar covered with hewn beams. This section is approximately two feet lower than the log part. It has a stone and brick exterior chimney on the east facade. Wide horizontal boards over upright poles form the siding on the exterior.

A cat-slide roof covers a full-width, one-story extension on the south facade, forming two rooms. The west room was the kitchen, and has a brick and stone chimney. Square nails were used in construction.

The exterior was left to weather naturally, and unpainted.

A log "meat house" is behind the house, and the remnants of the out house remain, approximately 40 feet behind the house, to the south.

A large barn stood south and east of the house. It has a stone foundation in good condition, but the framing has fallen under the collapsed roof.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			Local history

SPECIFIC DATES

Moved, 1804

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Frame section, John Austin
Barn, Robert A. Walters

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This log and frame tidewater house is one of but a few remaining structures of this type once common in Montgomery County. The log part dates from the time of the area's first settlers, the late 18th century, and the frame part from the early 19th century.

In 1784 Thomas Drury deeded to Simon Reeder 222 acres of the tract, "Conclusion", for "200 pounds specie". The log house was included as "improvements". Reeder bought Drury's household goods and family livestock and slaves at the same time -- "one negro man" named Jack, "one negro woman" named Terosia, one horse, one mare, one cow, one steer and one calf, three hogs, two featherbeds, two tables with six chairs, three chests, three pewter dishes, ten pewter plates, nine pewter spoons, one iron pot and a dutch oven -- all for the price of 100 pounds of "lawful money".¹

Reeder did not prosper. Just five years later Benjamin Reeder of Charles County and William Deakins were granted a Deed of Trust. They paid Simon Reeder five shillings for 11 negroes, 15 black cattle, 35 hogs, 19 sheep, "all other stock", his crop, household goods and land, and agreed to sell these items to pay his debts. The slaves were named George, Joseph, Moses, Ned, Phil, Sally, Bep, Jenny, Henry, and the former couple, Teresa ("Terosia" noted in B/245) and Jack.²

In 1794 Robert Ferguson of Charles County and Alexander Hamilton "late of Prince George's County" bought the farm from Sheriff Benjamin White Jones. They sold it to John Austin in 1803 for 175 pounds four shillings.³ The property remained in this family for the next 162 years. 1804 John Austin moved the house approximately 1,200 feet west across the "branch" or creek to its present site, and added the frame section to house his large family. A graveyard marks the previous location. John's father and uncle, Amos and Jonas Austin and also a slave were buried there, suggesting that the Austins lived in this log house before the date of purchase, renting it from Ferguson and Hamilton.

The children slept in the two large upstairs bedrooms, and the parents in the small downstairs bedroom. The stone fireplace served for cooking and heating until the kitchen wing was set up properly. The log house had a dirt floor, but John Austin laid down two-foot wide boards for flooring. The next generation installed the present tongue and groove floor for better draft control.

John Austin is noted by a contemporary as living on the property in 1865.⁴ By 1883 he had died, and the property was deeded to James H. Austin for \$825. Jerusha, John's widow, reserved her "right of dower". Other heirs included William Z.T. and Elizabeth Umstead, Robert A. and Sallie D. Walters, Charles T. Austin, Richard L. and Frances E. Umstead, Stephen R. and May E. Austin, Richard E. and Louisa Cooley, and Mary J. Austin.⁵

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(Continued on Attachment Sheet A)

John Austin had built a large barn which was struck by lightning and burned down August 9, 1907. It was rebuilt immediately on the same foundation, and lightning rods installed on the barn as well as the house. Robert A. Walters, James Austin's son-in-law, built this barn.

James H. Austin was a wheat farmer. He owned two horses and his neighbor on the north, Nick Monard, owned two also. The horses were hitched together to make a four-horse team, and used to plow, plant and harvest the adjoining farms. Austin and Monard hired a steam thresher when cash permitted. Otherwise they harvested the wheat themselves, cutting the stalks, tying them into bundles and stacking them to dry in the field. Wheat was parted from the straw and chaff when thoroughly dry, and taken to Darby's Mill in Buck Lodge to grind into flour.

James Austin's grandson, Harrington, grew up in the house and Harrington's aunt, Sallie D. Walters, kept a diary for the boy. The family grew most of their food on the property. They owned cows, horses, hogs and chickens, and planted a large vegetable garden including plentiful amounts of potatoes. An apple orchard provided cider, vinegar and assorted apple products. About their only store purchase was sugar, once or twice a month. Sometimes they took butter and eggs to the store, and traded for merchandise. They shopped in Boyds in Harrington's time, buying from Mahlon T. Lewis, Benjamin Hicks, Harrington "Matt" Thompson, and Will Williams. The Austins used the spring near the house for all their water needs, and enjoyed the abundant soft water nature had provided.

Harrington started school in 1917 at the Ten Mile Creek Schoolhouse, taught by Molly Green, Sarah Soper and Eleanor Maughlin. He continued his education in Gaithersburg, commuting on the train from Buck Lodge.⁶

James Austin parceled off some of his land to his children, Ann S. Reid and Stephen R. Austin.⁷ He died April 25, 1936, and Harrington Austin received the deed for the 92 acres remaining.⁸ The same day Harrington deeded the 92 acres to Willey E. Austin, Edith G. and Mary J. Austin. The land was then "in possession of Edith G. and Mary J. Austin."⁹ In 1949 the name of Willey E. Austin was dropped from the deed, and Harrington's was returned to the deed.¹⁰

In 1952 Harrington built himself a one-story house near Barnesville Road on his property, and in 1966 sold 87 acres to the present owners. "Boyd's Limited Partnership", Robert Viner and Richard Adams, and others, paid \$46,000 for the Austin farm, less Mr. Austin's four acres.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Hall of Records, Annapolis. B/246, Deed; B/245, Bill of Sale. Both dated August 11, 1784.
2. Hall of Records Deed of Trust D/294, November 19, 1789.
3. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., L/97 (October 17, 1803).
4. Martenet and Bond Map; 1865.
5. Land Records, op. cit., EBP 29/247 (August 21, 1883).
6. Interview with J. Harrington Austin, March 2 and 4, 1980.
7. Land Records, op. cit., EBP 35/176 (March 16, 1885) and EBP 35/448 (July 6, 1885), and JA 36/223 (December 30, 1892).
8. Ibid., 654/279 (February 10, 1937).
9. Ibid., 654/280.
10. Ibid., 1318/254 (November 18, 1949).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.
 Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.
 J. Harrington Austin, Barnesville Road, Boyds, Maryland. Interview.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 30 acres**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

West side of Barnesville Road between Slidell Road and Peach Tree Road.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Margaret M. Coleman

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

DATE

October 1979

TELEPHONE

926-4510

STATE

Maryland 20753

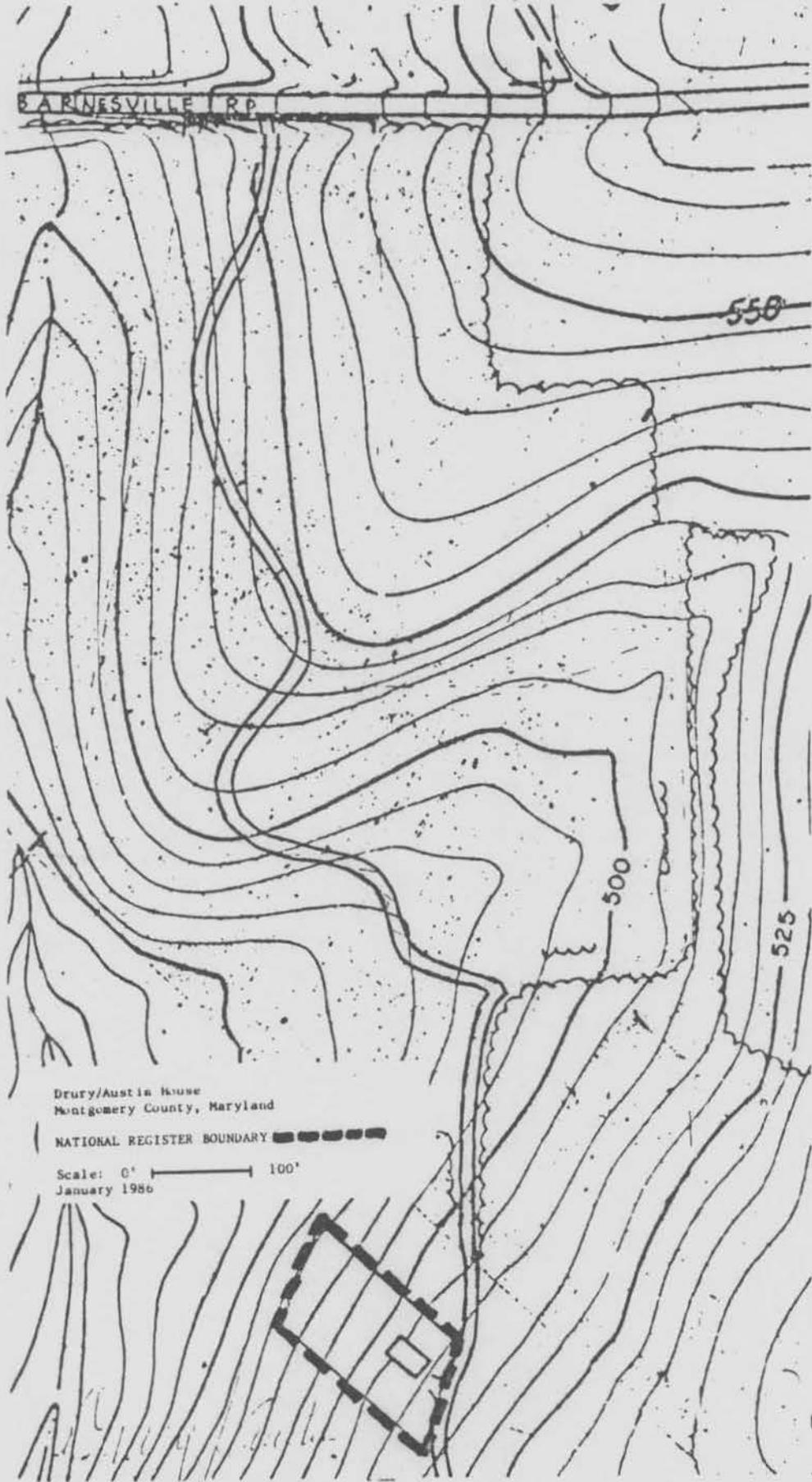
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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
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 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

Survey Book

M:18-42



Drury/Austin House
Montgomery County, Maryland

NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY 

Scale: 0'  100'
January 1986

4346000m N.

4345

POOLESVILLE 6.3 MI.
BARNESVILLE 0.2 MI.

4343

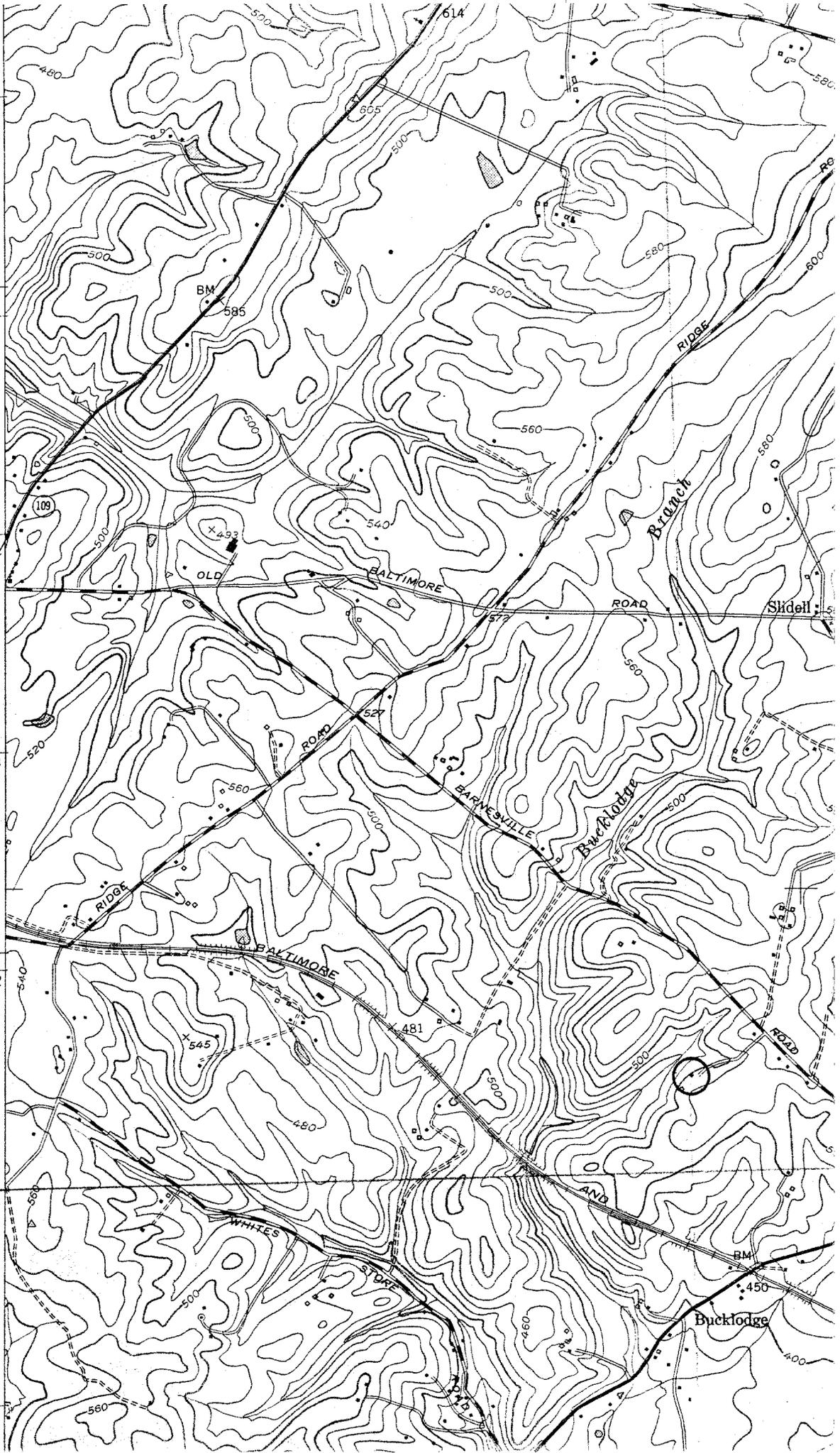
12'30"

4342

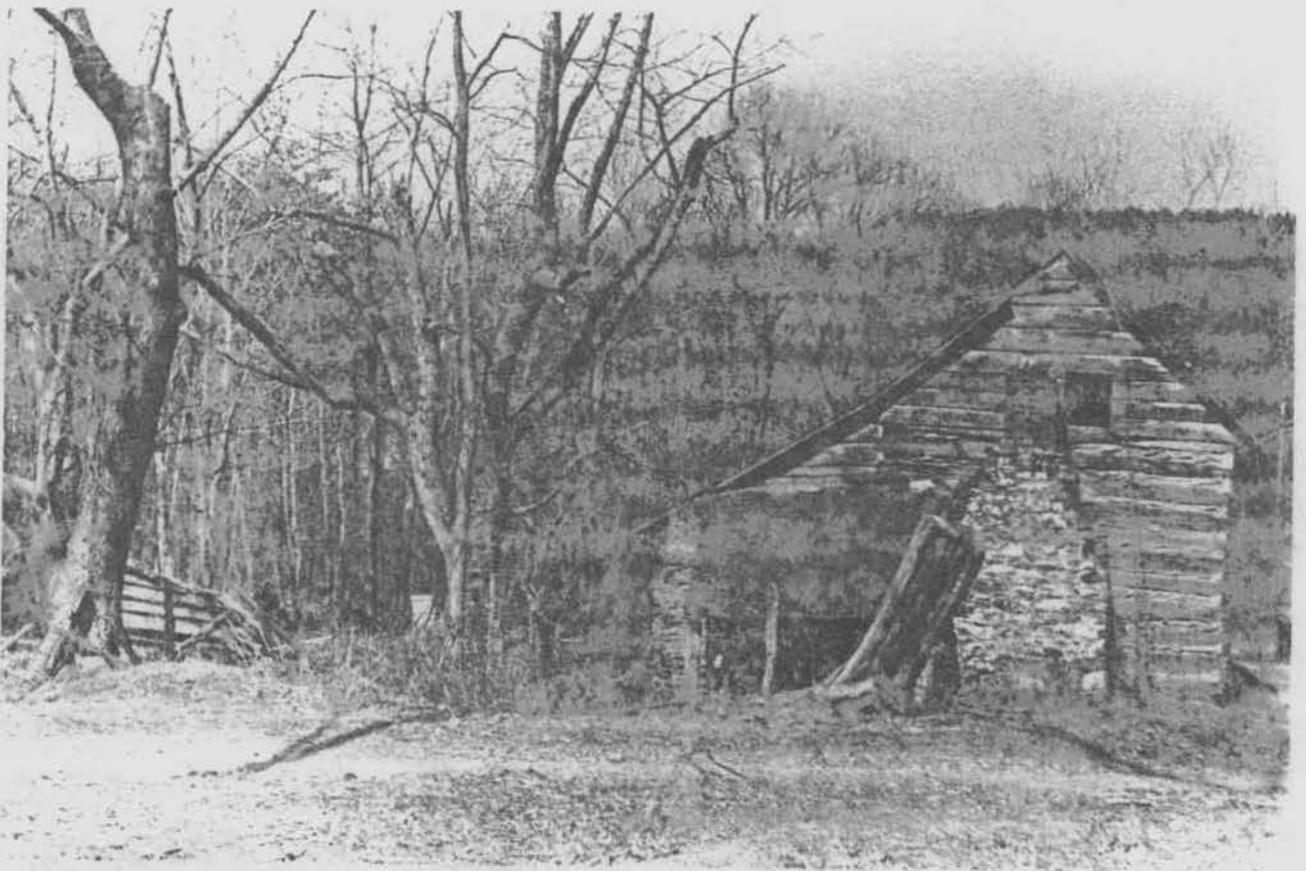
4341

5562 III NW
(POOLESVILLE)

M: 18-42
DRURY-AUSTIN
HOUSE
MONTGOMERY
COUNTY,
MARYLAND
18-298010-
4341450



M:18-42



M:18-42

Drury - Austin House
Montgomery Co., MD

photo: M. Coleman
neg. loc.: 16112 Barnesville Rd.
Boyd's MD 20841
EAST FACADE
CAMERA FACING WEST
NEW HOUSE OVERLOOKS OLD
4-1-85

#1 of 4

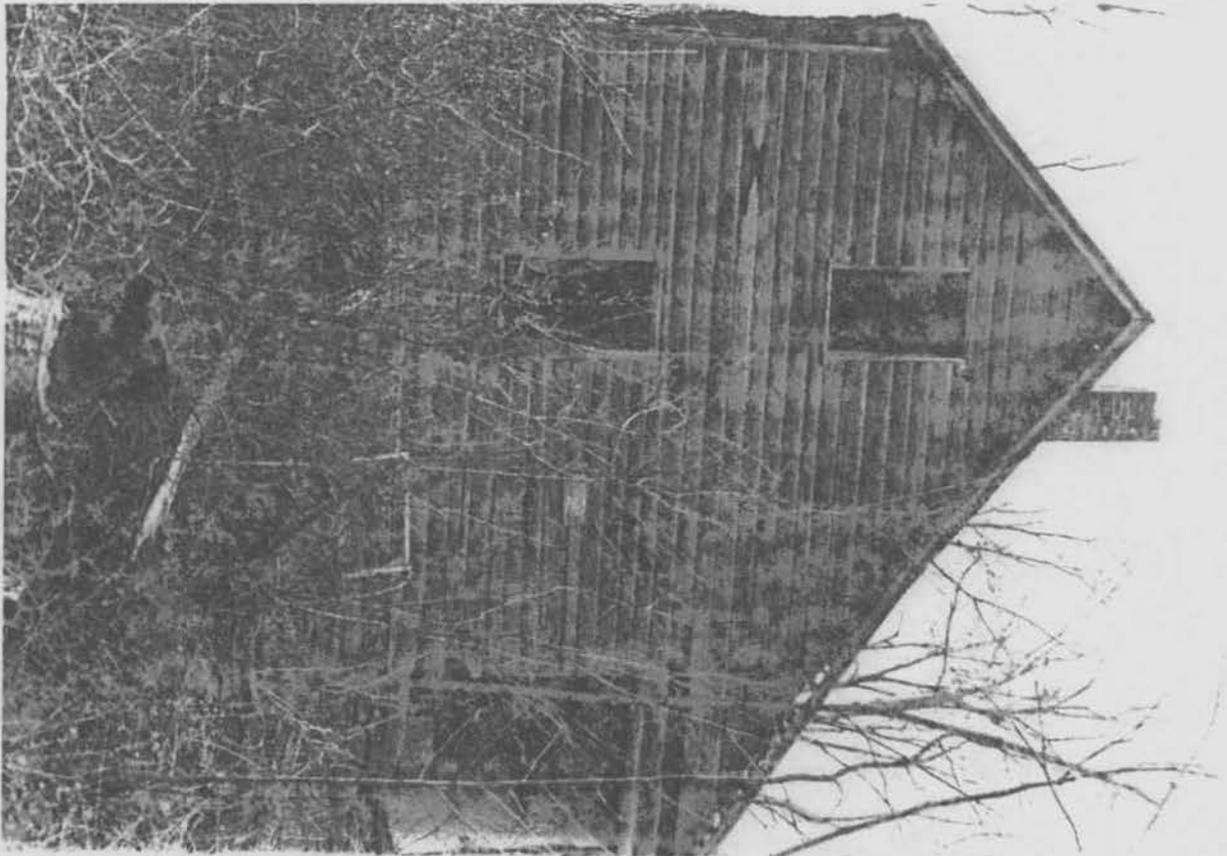
Drury - Austin House
Montgomery Co., MD

photo: M. Coleman
neg. loc.: 16112 Barnesville Road
Boyd's^{MD} 20841
SOUTH
~~NORTH~~ FACADE ~~NORTH~~
CAMERA FACING ~~SOUTH~~

#2 of 4

4-1-85

M:18-42



M:18-42

Drury-Austin House
Montgomery Co., MD

photo: M. Coleman
neg. loc.: 16112 Barnesville Rd
Boyd's MD 20841
WEST FACADE
CAMERA FACING EAST
4-1-85

3 of 4

Drury-Austin House
Montgomery County
MD.

photo: M. Coleman
neg. loc.: 16112 Barnesville Rd
Boyd's MD 20841
NORTH FACADE
CAMERA FACING SOUTH
4-1-85

4 of 4



Leonard Hays (1759-1822), the son of Jeremiah Hays, founded the town of Barnesville along with William Barnes. Jeremiah Hays arrived in the area in 1774; 210 years later Barnesville is led by his great-great-granddaughter, Elizabeth Hays Tolbert, president of the Barnesville Town Council. Courtesy of Elizabeth Hays Tolbert

Pictured here is a typical home of the eighteenth-century Montgomery County settlers who worked hard to provide shelter and food for their families. The one-story log section (at left) was built circa 1768. Chestnut logs were cut from the surrounding forest, shingles split from native Virginia cedar, fieldstones gathered for the chimney, and wooden pegs cut and whittled. These local materials were collected and put together to create a house at little or no cost.

The frame part (at right) and the upper story are more elegant, and were built in 1804 with sawn pine siding. The porch and picket fence were added later, too. This photograph was taken in 1912 with the owners, Rhoda, Willey, and Edith Austin, in the foreground.

Water came from the spring, and electricity was never installed. The family grew its own potatoes, eggs, and apples for cider and vinegar; also, it raised its own turkeys and hogs. The cash crop was first

tobacco, and then wheat, which was carted to Darby's Mill in Bucklodge. Despite the intensive labor required to keep body and soul together, Rhoda Austin found time to grow flowers. The house is currently owned by the author and still has no plumbing or electricity. Courtesy of Malcolm Walters



The Austins stored milk, butter, and other perishables in this simple frame house, which was built over a spring, the family's sole source of water. Courtesy of Malcolm Walters



M: 18-42
Thomas Drury | John Austin House
1612 Barnesville Road, Boyds

Ann & Dennis Lewis

336-53